

## LIKES AND DISLIKES (喜欢/不喜欢)

**LIKING VERBS VS. LIKING NOUNS**– Different grammar is used to express likes and dislikes, depending on whether the object (宾语) is a noun (名词), a verb (动词), or a gerund (动名词) (动词-ing). The three basic forms are: 1. I like 名词. 2. I like 动词-ing. 3. I like to 动词. An example of how the three forms are used (all with the same meaning): I like TV. I like watching TV. I like to watch TV. (我喜欢电视。我喜欢看电视。)

**SPECTRUM OF LIKES AND DISLIKES** (从最强的喜欢到最强的不喜欢)– English is a rich and complex (复杂) language, so there are many other words and phrases (短语) often used to express likes and dislikes. Here is a spectrum (系列) of these other ways, with extremes on the left and right sides:

STRONGEST (最强)

NEUTRAL/AMBIVALENT (中立)

STRONGEST

be obsessed with Sth.	like	not care about Sth.	dislike	hate
love	dig	enjoy	not like	despise
be crazy about Sth.	be fond of	not know (anything) about Sth.	not care for	abhor
be a big fan of Sth.	have never tried...	have never (过去分词)	not be a fan of	can't stand
				not be Sb`s cup of tea

**ADVERBS OF DEGREE** (程度的副词)– These can be added to many of the verbs above to show how much one likes or dislikes something:

很(like Sth.) very much / a lot	非常really (like Sth.)	特别especially (like Sth.)
有一点(like Sth.) a little bit / kind of	(like Sth.)	相当quite/rather (like Sth.)
不太/不怎么not really (like Sth.)	完全utterly/completely/totally (like Sth.)	有一点都不/ 完全not (like Sth.) at all

**FAVORITES** (最喜欢)– Unlike Chinese, in which 最喜欢(的) can be used as a verb or an adjective, the word ``favorite`` in English is used as either a noun or an adjective (形容词). Favorites are often expressed in one of the following patterns (结构), where A is the favorite:

A is my favorite A 的种类. OR... My favorite A 的种类 is A .

Note the differences in the way favorites are expressed: 这是我最喜欢的一本书。OR 我最喜欢这本书。BECOMES... This is my favorite book. OR... This book is my favorite. OR... My favorite book is this one. Note also that no matter which pattern is used, a possessive pronoun (所有格代词) always goes before the word ``favorite``. To say ``I/you/she/he/it/we/they favorite`` is not correct because ``favorite`` is never a verb in English.

**HOBBIES** (爱好)– In most cases, the best way to ask about one`s hobbies is to ask what one likes to do in his/her spare time. One can also ask: 你有没有爱好? Do you have any hobbies? 你的爱好是什么? What is your hobby?

**QUESTIONS** (问题)– There are many ways to ask for someone`s opinion (看法) of something, and the first opinion asked is usually whether or not someone likes something. Two common ways to ask 你喜不喜欢 are:

1. Do you like...? OR... 2. What do you think of/about...?

NOTE: Beginners often answer #2 by saying, ``I think of...is...`` This is not a correct way to express an opinion, and it is not likely to be the answer the person who asked wants to hear. It is usually best to answer #2 with a simple like/dislike sentence.

EXAMPLE: Q: What do you think of Chinese food? WRONG ANSWER: I think of Chinese food is very delicious. OK ANSWER: I think Chinese food is delicious. BEST/EASIEST/SHORTEST ANSWER: I like it (a lot).